

Senior officers stage coup in Surinam

PARAMARIBO, Surinam, Feb. 25 (AP) — Insurgent army units took control of this former Dutch colony in South America today after an eight-hour battle in which at least six people were reported dead, witnesses said. Automatic-weapon bazooka fire was opened at the headquarters of the country's main army, according to one witness. He said one patrol boat, apparently controlled by rebels, fired mortar rounds at the police headquarters, destroying part of it and setting neighbouring buildings on fire. Outgoing communications abroad were cut as the rebels occupied police stations and disarmed the civil police, the news said. Within a half-hour, the insurgents issued the following communiqué by telex: "The National Military Council tests that the democratic principles of the lawful state of Surinam will be respected fully. We, the National Council, solemnly declare that the national interests of the total Surinam population central in all measures we will take. All of the people are called on to follow orders strictly."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

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AMMAN, TUESDAY FEBRUARY 26, 1980 — RABIA' THANI 10, 1400

East Beirut protests Saturday's blast

BEIRUT, Feb. 25 (R) — Shops, schools and businesses were closed today in East Beirut and some other rightist-controlled areas near the capital in a protest strike against a bomb explosion on Saturday which killed eight people. Among the victims was the 18-month-old daughter of Mr. Bashir Gemayel, leader of the Falangist Party, Lebanon's largest right-wing organisation. Church bells tolled today in the areas affected by the strike out no trouble was reported. Meanwhile, Lebanon's journalists' trade union today offered a 50,000 pound (\$15,000) reward for information on the whereabouts of a kidnapped Lebanese publisher. Salim Al Lawzi, publisher of the London-based Arabic-language weekly magazine Al Hawadess, was abducted in his car yesterday while on his way to Beirut airport.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Regional Briefs

CAT, Feb. 25 (AP) — Sultan Qaboos of Oman met today with a special envoy Sonao Sonoda, who, is touring the Middle East with letters from his government to Arab leaders. Mr. Sonoda, who arrived in Muscat yesterday from Baghdad, held earlier in the day with Mr. Malallah Habib, head of the Omani foreign ministry's political department. Experts from Oman's trade and industry, finance, and petroleum ministries attended the meeting with the Habib, a statement said.

DHABI, Feb. 25 (R) — The government of the United Arab Emirates today doubled already massive subsidies announced last week to reduce petrol prices in the north of the country. A cabinet decision allocated 450 million dirhams (\$120 million) for subsidies to cut prices to all Emirates residents from March 1 until the end of this year. The new figure included 200 million dirhams of subsidies announced by UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan last week, when it was planned to give cheaper petrol to Emirates nationals. Nationals form only about a quarter of the population as the country relies heavily on foreign skills and labour. The Emirates have to import most of their petrol at world prices because of a lack of refineries. The subsidies cut the price of a gallon (4.55 litres) of high grade petrol 5.30 dirhams to 3.70 dirhams. Other grades of petrol, diesel and kerosene would be reduced by similar amounts.

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 25 (AP) — The Soviet aircraft carrier Kiev left the Istanbul Straits today en route to the Mediterranean Sea for a 39-day tour of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. Istanbul Port sources said the 42,000-ton attack cruiser sailed into the Sea of Marmara after leaving the 32-kilometre Bosphorus, the only link between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean — through Marmara and the Aegean Sea. The Kiev, the Soviet's first carrier, was accompanied by a Krivak-class frigate. Helicopters were clearly visible on the deck despite a thick fog in the area, sources said. The Kiev made her maiden voyage to the Mediterranean on July 18, 1976. The carrier is equipped with vertical takeoff-and-landing jets and has a crew of 2,500.

RIYAD, Feb. 25 (R) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Al Ahmad Al Sabah arrived here today with a message for President Saddam Hussein. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the minister was saying the message, from the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, dealt with relations between the two countries. He said discussions with Iraqi Foreign Minister Saadoun Hammadi would cover ways of developing ties, in addition to the current Arab situation. Sheikh Al Ahmad was on his way to an extraordinary Arab League meeting in Tunis today, due to start tomorrow, was called by Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi following a guerrilla attack on Tunisia's mining town of Gafsa on Jan. 27 in which 41 people were killed. Tunisia accused Libya of organising the attack. A government spokesman said yesterday that Libya has agreed to the meeting to be postponed until early March. He gave no reason for the request.

TEHRAN, Feb. 25 (R) — Bulldozers began demolishing Tehran's last red light district today. The last prostitutes from the district were moved out of their homes yesterday. For rehousing in gracious mansions once owned by two families executed after last year's revolution, the official Pars News Agency reported. The red light area, described by Pars as "a centre of prostitution and corruption and a shame on the city of Tehran," will be replaced by a bazaar and a mosque under plans announced by the "Centre for the Abolition of Prohibited Acts." Drug addicts who once frequented Shah-e-e-Nava have been moved to city hospitals for treatment, Pars said. Other inhabitants of the district neighbourhood have been sent to training centres and absorbed into the labour market after receiving proper training, an official at the centre said.

TEHRAN, Feb. 25 (AP) — A top Iranian official said today his government was convinced that Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi was behind the disappearance of Lebanese religious leader Musa Sadr, Tehran Radio reported. The broadcast, Monday here, said Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr had ordered a government delegation to go to Libya to check further the fate of Imam Musa who disappeared after going to Libya in 1978 at Col Qaddafi's invitation. Imam Musa was leader of the 900,000 Shi'ite Muslims, the majority sect in Iran. He contends he left Tripoli for Rome at the end of the visit. But Iranian authorities say all they found were an airport customs card for Imam Musa's name and his luggage, located at a Rome hotel. "All information, evidence, and the results of political investigations we have gathered over the last 16 months indicate that Musa Sadr had not left Libya," Tehran Radio quoted Mr. Tabataba'i, supervisor of cabinet affairs, as saying in an interview with the Tehran daily Bamdad. "We also are convinced the Libyan government and Muammar Qaddafi himself know where he is if they have not been behind Sadr's disappearance," Tabataba'i added. Mr. Tabataba'i, a nephew of the missing leader, said he would be heading the Iranian delegation, and is due to leave Tehran shortly.

ALGER, Feb. 25 (R) — A team of Algerian doctors has successfully performed the country's first open-heart surgery on a 34-year-old girl, the Algerian News Agency reported today. Following yesterday's success, two other patients are undergoing similar operations at the university hospital of the eastern town of Constantine, it added.

N. commission begins probe in Iran

GENEVA, Feb. 25 (R) — A United Nations commission investigating alleged crimes of the Shah of Iran today by conferring with a rights campaigner imprisoned under the monarch's rule.

Karim Lahidji, president of Iran's Rights Association, said after the meeting in his office in Tehran that the commission would in time present a report on conditions in the Shah, which he hoped to have ready in a few days.

A five-man panel set about its task in an attempt to ease the conflict over the U.S. embassy in Tehran. Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr viewed a march-past from the wall of the White House where the 49 Americans are being held. President's attendance at the demonstration by tens of thousands of Iranians to climax a "mobilisation week" was seen as a gesture of approval for the militant students who took over the embassy on Nov. 4.

In reference to the captives, whom the Shah said they will free only when the Shah freed from Panama to stand trial here, a spokesman for the U.N. commission, which was set up two days ago, said Mr. Lahidji and five

prominent Iranian jurists had informed the panel about human rights violations.

It was not clear whether the commission, comprising lawyers from Algeria, France, Syria, Sri Lanka and Venezuela would meet the embassy hostages.

Today's demonstration was called by Iran's national mobilisation headquarters to back Ayatollah Khomeini's call for a 20-million strong "people's army" to be ready to defend the country.

President Bani-Sadr told the demonstrators, "You are observing what is happening in Afghanistan and what has happened to the people of Palestine in order to have an independent nation, all Iranians must be ready to defend their country."

The U.N. commission has so far received two packages of documents from Iranian officials, covering the Shah's alleged human rights violations and economic crimes, its spokesman said.

Sources close to the commission said it would hear major witnesses tomorrow, including people jailed under the Shah, victims of his secret police Savak, and Central Bank officials.

Legal sources said Iran was now working on documents to support the formal request it will make to Panama for the Shah's extradition.



A Soviet Mi-24 armed helicopter flies over the city of Kabul last Friday, the day the Afghan capital was placed under martial law. The photo, taken by a correspondent of Japan's Yomiuri Shinbun newspaper, was released Monday. (AP wirephoto)

More shooting in Kabul Civilian regime seems to have broken down

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 25 (Agencies) — The Soviet-backed government appeared to have virtually broken down today in the face of strikes and violence protesting the Soviet presence in Afghanistan.

More shooting was heard in Kabul today and there seemed to be little sign that civilian government was functioning in the Afghan capital, diplomats in the city said.

The diplomats also said most shops in the capital remained closed in protest against the Soviet intervention in the country. But Kabul Radio said all fighting had stopped and reported that life had returned to normal.

The broadcast, monitored here, said "daily life has returned to normal and people are engaged in normal activities. As a result of the restoration of peace, all shops have opened."

Although diplomats in Kabul said the capital was generally quiet, they said some shooting had been heard about 8 a.m.

Afghan guerrilla groups based in Pakistan said today that at least 800 people had been killed and thousands wounded in the fighting with Soviet and Afghan troops, planes and armoured units which erupted in Kabul last Thursday.

Islamic guerrilla organisations in the Pakistani town of Peshawar said hundreds of women and children took to Kabul streets during the anti-Soviet demonstrations, shouting to the Soviet forces: "Kill us, Kill us."

Diplomats in Kabul said few officials turned up for work today in government ministries.

They said that although the capital was generally quiet, streets in the city were tense with Afghan army and Soviet tanks at all strategic points.

Hundreds of troops and armed militia from the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP) were on foot patrols, the diplomats said.

Although Afghan authorities have given no casualty figures from the Kabul fighting, one western embassy estimated that 500 people may have died. It based its

estimate on a body count provided by doctors in Kabul hospitals.

Radio Kabul said that more alleged Pakistani infiltrators had been arrested in the capital. The broadcast was part of a campaign to demonstrate that the anti-Soviet civil insurrection in the city was directed from abroad.

The broadcast said the operation to arm "killers and mercenaries" had been ordered by President Carter and organised by a U.S. intelligence agent identified as Robert Lezard. Afghan authorities said earlier they had arrested a U.S. agent called Robert Lee, but it was not clear whether this was the same man.

Afghan guerrilla groups based in Pakistan said more trouble could come this week if the Kabul government went ahead with a reported plan to ban prayer services on Friday. Riots began after prayer meetings in Kabul last Friday. Although Kabul Radio said the capital had returned to normal today, a late-night broadcast monitored last night in Islamabad spoke of continuing burning, looting and gunfire.

Israel to spend more on defence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 25 (AP) — Finance Minister Yigal Hurvitz brought an austerity budget to the Knesset today allocating a larger share for defence and forecasting higher prices and more hardships for the people.

Battling devastating inflation of over 150 per cent, Mr. Hurvitz appealed to the public to work harder and accept a cut in government spending that will mean fewer hospital beds and larger classrooms.

Mr. Hurvitz proposed a budget of 653 billion Israeli pounds or \$65.3 billion shekels, the new currency the government is introducing this week to replace the battered pound and restore the public's confidence in the value of its money. At today's exchange rate of four shekels to the dollar, the budget came to \$16.3 billion, but devaluations over the budget year starting April 1 were expected to reduce the dollar equivalent to about \$12 billion. Defence was allocated 32.2 per cent of the total budget, up from 30.

"We are talking about large expenditures for a new infrastructure, including roads, communications, electricity, water, air bases and supply bases," Mr. Hurvitz said.

Part of the burden will be offset by a \$2 billion loan from the United States, but Mr. Hurvitz said arms purchases abroad also will be trimmed to meet the cost and more of the army's needs will be produced at home.

The Knesset was expected to debate the budget proposal this week before voting it to committee. Final approval is not expected for several weeks.

A new round of price rises was expected within weeks as the government passes on to the consumer the rising cost of imports as the shekel sinks against the dollar.

Bomb blasts in Hebron, Haifa Arabs declare general strikes to protest Egypt-Israel normalisation

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25 (Agencies) — Palestinian Arabs in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip today

declared general strikes to protest tomorrow's exchange of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt.

President Anwar Sadat of Egypt is scheduled to accept the credentials of Dr. Eliahu Ben Elissar as the first Israeli ambassador to Egypt tomorrow. Egyptian Ambassador-Designate Saad Murrada will present his credentials at the same time to Israeli President Yitzhak Navon in occupied Jerusalem.

"We will make this day a black day," said a statement by the Gaza town council after an emergency meeting. "This shall be our answer to the exchange of ambassadors."

A bomb exploded today outside the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron, in the occupied West Bank, a military government spokesman said.

The spokesman said the charge was stashed in a waste bin near the building, which contains both a mosque and a Jewish synagogue. The building is on the site of the traditional burial place of Abraham, who is revered by Muslims as the "Father of Prophets."

Arabs have clashed frequently in Hebron with Israeli settlers from the nearby settlement of Kiryat Arba and soldiers from the settlement was shot dead in Hebron's outdoor market on Jan. 31. Commercial strikes and school disturbances were reported in several towns.

Israeli security forces have been on heightened alert to prevent commando attacks aimed at protesting the ambassador exchange.

In the northern city of Haifa, three persons were killed today when a two-story building collapsed in a powerful explosion.

Police said two adults and an infant were killed when the apartment building collapsed, and two other persons were injured. A couple living in a downstairs apartment was trapped, and dug out by rescue workers.

In Damascus, Palestinian commandos said they killed at least three Israelis and wounded many others in two bomb attacks today in Israel and in the occupied West Bank of Jordan.

The Palestine News Agency (WAPA) quoted a commando spokesman as saying a time-bomb placed in an "investigation centre" in Haifa set the building and adjacent houses ablaze. "As a result, several apartments collapsed, neighbouring houses were heavily damaged and three enemy members were killed," the spokesman said. "Many more are still buried under the debris, he added."

A second bomb was planted in a rest house in Hebron frequented by Israeli investigators and foreign tourists, the spokesman said. The explosion caused "unspecified human and material losses to the enemy," he added.

In Beirut, political parties called today for protest marches in Lebanon to coincide with the scheduled exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and Israel.

Leaflets distributed by Lebanese allies of the Palestine Liberation Organisation described the establishment of Egyptian-Israeli diplomatic relations as the

"ultimate disgrace for all Arabs."

When the normalisation process began on Jan. 26, Palestinians staged protest marches in Beirut and burned effigies of President Sadat, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who sponsored the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

In Damascus, the Syrian government described the exchange of ambassadors as the "ultimate disgrace for the Arabs."

The government scheduled a nationwide five-minute stoppage of traffic at midday to express Syria's anger.

In Khartoum, the Sudanese Press Association today called on Arab countries to declare "a day of national mourning" when Egypt and Israel formally exchange ambassadors.

"We feel shame and disgrace, and bow our heads in bitterness and remorse at the day you

announce to the world, without consideration of the magnitude of the catastrophe, your acceptance of the first ambassador of the enemy in Egypt," the association said in a cable to President Sadat.

The cable noted that while an Israeli flag is hoisted in Egypt, Israel "stubbornly refuses to cooperate in the negotiations, it continues to establish settlements in the occupied territories and refuses to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinians."

The association called on liberals throughout the Arab World to consider tomorrow "a day of national mourning over the usurped Palestinian rights" and urged them to unite to foil the defeat.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Defence Minister Kamel Hassan Ali arrived in Tel Aviv today to discuss the establishment of normal ties between the two countries. He was met at the airport by Israeli

Defence Minister Ezer Weizman and Mr. Murtada. The Egyptian embassy is lodged temporarily in a Tel Aviv hotel until permanent quarters are found.

In an airport statement, Gen. Ali said that Israeli-Egyptian peace was only the first step of a general Middle East peace. Referring to talks on Palestinian autonomy, due to continue in Europe this week, he said: "All efforts are devoted to a comprehensive peace settlement."

Gen. Ali is to discuss summaries by four committees working on normalisation. The committees have reached agreements on mutual tourism, aviation, land and sea transportation, and communication between the two countries.

The Egyptian defence minister also will visit an aircraft plant and see Israel's locally produced tank in operation before he returns to Egypt on Friday.

Says he will not talk to PLO

Carter agrees to supply Egypt with F-16s, F-15s and M-60s

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (Agencies) — The Carter administration has agreed to arm Egypt with 40 F-16 jet fighter planes and 250 M-60 tanks as a "friend commitment to the peace process," the U.S. State Department announced today.

Sometime in the future — presumably when Egypt wants them — the administration also intends to provide more sophisticated F-15 fighters.

The announcement coincided with a reaffirmation by President Jimmy Carter of U.S. support for Israel before a Jewish audience here.

Mr. Carter told the group he opposes an independent Palestinian state and would not authorise negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation until certain conditions are met.

The arms package, which has been in the works for some time, will require congressional approval. Announcing it, Mr. Hodding Carter, the State Department spokesman, said: "We feel it acceptably meets the needs of a friend (Egypt) committed to the peace process in the region which has major defence needs."

He said Egypt passed up an offer for F-15s because it decided to "devote resources" to the other weapons. He stressed that all the U.S. arms would be bought under a credit arrangement.

Speaking to the National Young Leadership Conference of the United Jewish Agency, the president was cheered loudly when he proclaimed: "I will not negotiate with nor recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation..."

However, the cheers subsided a bit when he finished the sentence by saying "unless it first recognises Israel's right to exist" and complies with United Nations resolutions that recognise that right and deals with the Palestinians as a refugee problem.

"It's past time for a total end to terrorism against the people who live there," Mr. Carter said.

The president also reiterated his policy of opposition to an independent Palestinian state "because in my own judgment and in the judgment of many leaders... this would be a destabilising factor in the Middle East."

Egypt and Israel currently are negotiating an autonomy plan for Palestinians on the West Bank of Jordan and in Gaza. Mr. Carter is committed to a Palestinian homeland, but not an independent state. The president said that in the negotiations, "as we work for the legitimate rights of the Palestinians... we will countenance no action which could hurt Israel's security."

In Tel Aviv, Israeli government officials said today Defence Minister Ezer Weizman was seeking an urgent meeting with Defence Secretary Harold Brown to express Israel's deep concern over the supply of the most advanced American arms to Egypt.

The meeting is expected to be held in Washington soon after Mr. Weizman completes his role as host for Egyptian Defence Minister Kamel Hassan Ali, who began a five-day visit to Israel today.

Israeli officials said the cabinet was divided over the problem. "The difference over approach was apparent at yesterday's

cabinet meeting," one official said.

"On the one hand we understand that Egypt needs a strong military force and that its equipment must be updated. But the question is to what extent."

Prime Minister Menachem Begin demanded at the cabinet session a fullscale campaign in the U.S. Congress and among the public to urge the administration to downgrade the planned arms deal with Egypt.

An official in the prime minister's office said Mr. Begin was "particularly disturbed by reports from Washington and Cairo that the U.S. will now treat Egypt on a par with Israel concerning arms supplies."

Mr. Begin was said to have been upset by a report from Mr. Weizman about his meeting last week with U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defence David McGiffert, who visited both Egypt and Israel.

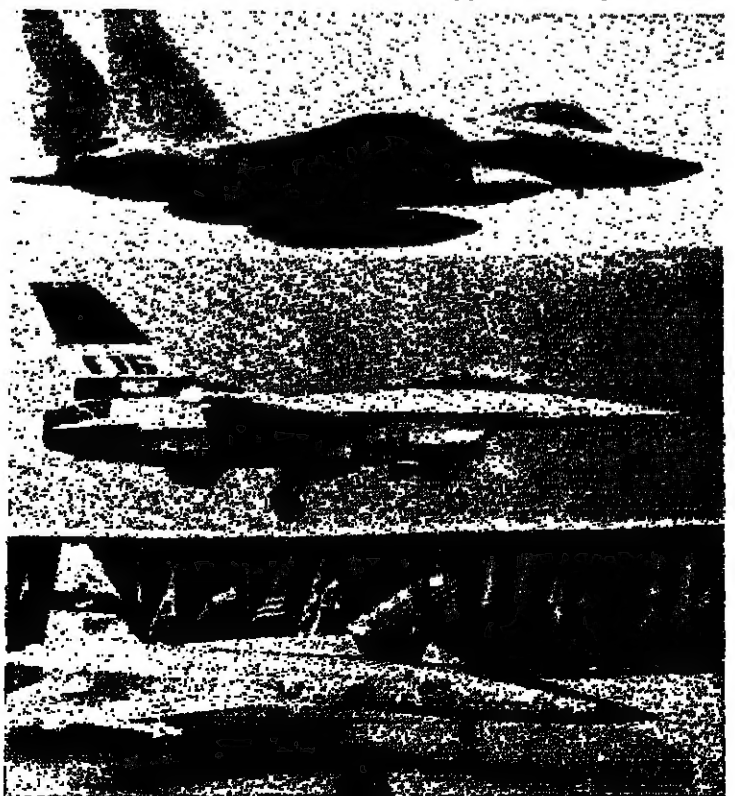
Mr. Weizman, on the other hand, told his cabinet colleagues yesterday that "it was not realistic" to oppose Washington's decision to sell Egypt the F-15 and F-16 planes as well as the M-60 tanks.

A cabinet source said Mr. Weizman favoured trying to persuade the Americans to delay actual shipment of the sophisticated weapons to Egypt as long as possible and, at the same time, to demand that the U.S. help finance the development and construction in Israel of a new Israeli-designed warplane.

A final cabinet decision was postponed until next week when the cabinet expects to have further information.

Joining Mr. Begin and many cabinet members in the demand for sharper Israeli reaction to the American arms deals with Cairo have been leaders of the opposition Labour Party.

A number of Labour Knesset members charged the government with "neglecting national security" by failing to act earlier on the arms supplies and have demanded a parliamentary investigation.



From top, down: The F-15, F-16 and F-5E.

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Responsible Editor:
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Editor:
WILLIAM F. LEE

Managing Editor:
JENAB TUTUNJI

Board of Directors:
JUMA' HAMMAD
RAJA ELISSA
MOHAMMAD AMAD
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Senior Editor:
MAAZ B. SHUKAYR

Editorial and advertising offices:
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 67171-2-3-4

Tlx. 21497 Al Rai JO

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Unbridgeable gap?

WHEN erstwhile enemies bury the hatchet, the reconciliation is usually accompanied by extravagant expressions and displays of peace and harmony. Whether it is two old friends smoothing over a misunderstanding, or two nations healing a longstanding breach in relations, it is customary for each side to try and show the other just how committed it is to the restoration of amity.

Contrary to this normal pattern, Egypt and Israel have undertaken their formal establishment of diplomatic relations in an atmosphere of considerable acrimony.

Almost the first utterances of the Egyptian ambassador on his arrival in Israel on Sunday were his government's rejection of Israel's claim to Jerusalem as the "capital of Israel" and its insistence that there must be "progress" on Palestinian "autonomy" in order for the Egyptian-Israeli marriage to get off the ground.

As for the Israeli ambassador to Cairo, Mr. Ben Elissar, his arrival was greeted by a stinging attack by the Egyptian press and a formal protest from members of Egypt's opposition political parties. These attacks stemmed from the Israeli envoy's outspoken support of the Begin regime's policy of establishing Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, particularly the authorisation of civilian settlement in Arab Hebron on the West Bank.

Commentators are doubting, not for the first time, whether the exchange of ambassadors will succeed in the stated aim of both countries to establish a "bridge of understanding" between them.

The Camp David process, of which this "normalisation" of relations is an integral part, has contained a series of pitfalls for President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin, of which this is only the latest. These traps were all clearly foreseeable from the outset and are of concern primarily to these two vain and stubborn men.

It does not, or should not, trouble the rest of us that the establishment of full diplomatic relations for the first time between an Arab state and the Zionist state should turn out to be a sterile exercise in futility. No sane person could expect otherwise so long as Israel remains in occupation of one square centimetre of Arab land or continues otherwise to commit crimes of inhumanity and aggression against Arab peoples.

It remains a fact unacceptable to any Arab that the flag of the occupying enemy should fly over an Arab capital at a time when, thanks to Israel's belligerence and intransigence, peace is, if anything, a more distant prospect than ever. The Egyptian-Israeli relationship will collapse of its own accord for these very reasons.

We may squirm at what is going on now: we may even, as some Sudanese journalists have suggested, declare a "day of mourning" as an expression of our dismay. But the bilateral Egyptian-Israeli aspects of the Camp David accords have always been incidental to the real task of achieving peace. As we contemplate measures to isolate President Sadat further in protest at what he is doing, our efforts must at the same time be concentrated on the search for a better way of ending Israel's occupation and denial of Palestinian rights and achieving a workable solution.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: What is now happening on Syria's borders with the Zionist enemy, and events in Lebanon, add to the challenges facing the Arab nation which cannot be confronted without unified Arab action transcending marginal disagreements and conflicts.

In more than one Arab capital sincere efforts are now being made to confront all challenges. Topping the list of these challenges is that of Zionism, which after Camp David has become even more greedy to swallow more Arab land and make more Arabs surrender to its will. Iraqi Vice President Izzat Ibrahim's recent talks with His Majesty King Hussein and top Jordanian officials represent one of the most sincere and serious Arab efforts. The proposed new national charter, which was the main topic of discussion, aims -- as presented by the Iraqi leadership -- at transcending the past and defining a firm formula for renewed Arab relations not stained by conflicts or disagreements.

On the other hand, the call which was issued on Sunday for haste in holding a meeting among Syrian, Algerian and Libyan leaders is another sincere Arab effort to overcome the situation and start a new Arab era. The Third serious effort in this direction is the Arab League Council's extraordinary meeting which begins in Tunis Tuesday.

All three Arab efforts, which take place at the same time and work in the same direction, are searching for a new path which will lead the Arab nation towards integrity, strength and pride and to a place where justice prevails and rights are restored.

AL DUSTOUR: The new Arab national charter proposed by our Iraqi brethren comes at a time when the Arab nation is most in need of unity of thought, action, effort and purpose and of a crystallisation of the Arab nation's indigenous potential in a way that will guarantee the changing of the balance of power in its favour against the Zionist enemy and foreign intervention. This would also give the Arab nation's voice weight at the international level and pave the way for restoring the occupied Arab territories.

The principles of the Iraqi charter are an expression of what every Arab desires for his nation: its security, freedom and independence. These principles have acquired their significance from the timing of their announcement to coincide with events which have placed the Arab World at the centre of the superpowers' attention.

The Arab countries are searching for firm foundations and for sources of power; therefore the adoption of the national charter for Arab action constitutes the origin of any effort to protect this nation from superpower conflict. It is also the first step towards building up the strength needed to counter Zionist aggression on Arab land.

King meets with summit planning team



AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- His Majesty King Hussein chaired a meeting at the royal court today of the special committee preparing for the Arab summit to be held in Amman towards the end of this year. The committee, headed by the Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, groups a number of senior Jordanian officials. In his directives to the committee the King stressed the importance of beautifying the capital for the national occasion. The committee reviewed at the meeting the different steps taken so far and plans worked out for the occasion.

Twin towns group invites W. Bank towns to join

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25 (R) -- Mayors of several all-Palestinian towns on the Israeli-occupied West Bank have received letters from the Paris-based World Union of Twin Towns inviting them to join the organisation. West Bank sources said last week.

The sources said the union had approached representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Paris.

The invitations said that if the towns agreed to join, the union would arrange for them to be twinned with towns in Western Europe.

"This will enable West Bank towns to end their present isolation and present the daily problems of their inhabitants to Western Europeans," the letter said.

Interest for savings raised

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JT) -- The Central Bank has raised the interest rates paid by Jordanian banks on savings accounts, according to a report by Al Ra'i newspaper yesterday. A minimum interest of 5.5 per cent will be paid on deposits which do not require prior notice for withdrawal, a minimum of 6.25 per cent on deposits subject to one month's notice and a minimum of 6.5 per cent on deposits subject to six month's notice. A bank spokesman said the new step was taken to encourage saving and investment.



Business has picked for money changers in occupied Jerusalem, as both Palestinians and Israelis rush to change their Israeli currency into either dollars or Jordanian dinars in the wake of the recent announcement of a change in the Israeli unit of currency. The exchange rate for dinars rose from 132 to 137 Israeli pounds in one day, while the rate for the dollar went, in some cases, from 39.25 pounds up to 44. By Saturday afternoon, some money changers had run out of dollars.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Swedish Film

Tonight there will be a repeat performance of Bergman's "The Seventh Seal" in the Swedish film festival. The film begins at 8:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Industry building in Jabal Amman.

Indian Film

Tonight's film for the Indian film festival is "Nishant" at 6:30 p.m. at the American Centre: admission invitations available at the Indian Embassy.

Documentary

The British Council presents "Focus on Soccer", number 2, at 6:30 p.m. The films are: "The Midfield Player" with Trevor Brooking and "The Winger" with Gordon Hill.



Iraqi Vice President Izzat Ibrahim is accompanied to his waiting plane by Crown Prince Hassan and Sharif Abdul Hamid on his departure from Amman Sunday.

Iraqi vice president discusses ME, Arab charter with King

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (Agencies) -- The Vice President of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, Mr. Izzat Ibrahim, paid a brief visit to Jordan at the head of a three-man delegation yesterday and held talks with His Majesty King Hussein. The talks were attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan Al Qasem and other senior Jordanian officials.

Mr. Ibrahim briefed the King on the national charter which was proposed by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein aimed at bolstering Arab solidarity. King Hussein reiterated Jordan's support for the charter and for Iraq's endeavours to strengthen Arab solidarity.

The charter, which has already been supported by Jordan, provides, among other things, for the solution of inter-Arab differences through dialogue and understanding and rejects the presence

of foreign troops and military alliances on Arab soil.

Sharif Abdul Hamid said in a statement after the meeting that the time was now propitious for constructive ideas which could pave the way for common Arab action, boost mutual cooperation and mobilise all Arab potential in the face of the present challenges and the dangers that threaten the Arab World.

Before leaving for home, Mr. Ibrahim told reporters that he had conveyed a message to King Hussein from President Saddam Hussein. He declined to elaborate but said it concerned the current Arab situation.

The Iraqi delegation also included Deputy Prime Minister Na'im Haddad, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamed Alwan and Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Hussein Al Jamali.

Officials said the talks covered the various aspects of Middle East developments, bilateral relations and the current international situation.

NCC holds weekly meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- The National Consultative Council (NCC) met today and referred a draft amendment to the law governing the operations of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, to the council's financial committee.

The NCC also asked the government for further clarification of certain points in the draft real estate tax law.

The council approved the Foreign Affairs Committee decision to appoint Mr. Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh as the committee's rapporteur.

It was also decided that the agenda for the next session of the NCC will include the reading of a statement by the government on its policy on controlling prices and combating inflation and measures taken to that effect so far, to be followed by a debate of the statement.

The council also ratified the Social and Educational Affairs

Committee's decision concerning a draft amendment to the public health law for 1980.

NCC member Mr. Abdullah Rimawi proposed that a statement be issued on Camp David, but the Foreign Affairs Committee recommended that time was not ripe for such a statement and the council ratified the committee's decision.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- His Highness Crown Prince Hassan will begin on Wednesday an official visit to Kuwait, Qatar and Iraq, an official source at the Royal court said today. The trip is for the purpose of promoting bilateral relations between Jordan and each of the brotherly countries.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JT) -- The Ministry of Tourism wants all tourist and travel agencies in Jordan to get its prior approval before advertising their summer excursions. A circular distributed today to the agencies also said that each agency should make an announcement with full details of each trip and have the holiday makers sign a mutual agreement, a copy of which should be forwarded to the ministry. According to Director of Tourism Michael Hamameh, the new measures are intended to protect the rights of vacationers, and were decided on after a number of complaints had been received from citizens who took part in last year's trips.

KARAK, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- Due to continuous rainfall water has now flooded the Wadi Hadira between Amman and Aqaba, submerging bridges in the area. The Public Security Directorate announced here today. The water was moving eastwards towards Qatrania, and the inhabitants of the valley have been evacuated to higher and safer places. According to the agriculture department here, the water behind the Qatrania dam has now reached a depth of 12 metres, making the total amount of water in the lake 5 million cubic metres. It said the amount of water flowing into the lake is 100 times the quantity being drained out.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- Tunisia is to supply Jordan with 1,000 tonnes of olive oil this year, according to an agreement signed here yesterday. The shipment will reach Jordan in two installments, one by the end of March and the second by the end of May. The agreement was signed for Jordan by Minister of Supply Jawad Anani and for Tunisia by the head of the Tunisian department in charge of olive oil, Mr. Al Jayyas.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- A three-member team from the two Jordanian universities and the Royal Scientific Society returned to Amman today after a week-long visit to Pakistan. The team's talks centred on launching cooperation between Jordan and Pakistan in science and technology. The team also toured a number of research centres and engineering faculties in Pakistan's universities.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JT) -- An Arab medical conference to be held in Amman this October will be devoted mostly to heart surgery, Dr. Fuad Keilani, the head of the committee preparing for the conference, said here yesterday. He told a press conference at the Professional Association Complex that nearly 1,200 Arab physicians will take part in the three-day conference. Any Jordanian specialist will be welcome to attend and present a research project, he said. Other subjects on the conference agenda include the treatment of cancer, diabetes, hepatitis and children's diseases, sterility among men and infertility among women.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JT) -- The total number of Jordanian labourers leaving the country to work in Saudi Arabia and Libya last month was 435, in compared to 700 in January last year. A report in Al Ra'i

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Delaying African tour

Qasem leaves for Tunis Arab League meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JT) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan Al Qasem left for Tunis today to take part in an extraordinary session of the Arab League Council, called to consider complaints by Tunisia and Libya. The two countries are at odds over recent events in the Tunisian mining town of Gafsa.

During the meetings, to start tomorrow, the Jordanian delegation will call for cohesion and unity among Arab ranks. It will stress the need to enhance indigenous Arab strength to foil plots hatched against Arab solidarity, the minister said in a pre-departure statement. He said Jordan hopes through cooperation with the sister countries to contain the problem.

During his stay in Tunis, Mr. Qasem said, he will hold talks with Arab League Secretary General Chadi Qulaibi on the mission of a Jordanian-led Arab delegation soon to visit five African countries.

A Foreign Ministry source told the Jordan Times it has not yet been decided when Mr. Qasem



Marwan Al Qasem

will make his African tour trip was originally scheduled this week but the extra meeting has interfered. It is whether Mr. Qasem will rejoin Jordan before leaving on his or start the trip from Tunis.

PM meets with joint steadfastness group

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- The Jordanian-Palestinian committee formed to help Arabs under occupation resist Israeli encroachments on the land and resources of the West Bank ended a three-day session here today and called on the Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf.

The Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee to Bolster Steadfastness in the Occupied Arab Territories, formed at the 1978 Baghdad summit, conferred with the prime minister on most effective way to aid the people of the West Bank to resist Israel's settlement policy and its designs on Arab lands.

During its three-day session which began here on Saturday, the committee discussed the formulation of a comprehensive development plan for the occupied territories in 1980 and a



programme of action to help Bankers hold our age occupation in conformity with the aims of the steadfastness up at the Baghdad summit.

Local News Briefs

newspaper said, quoting Labour Ministry sources, that among labourers there were 15 women.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JT) -- A 22-year-old Egyptian living in Amman was apprehended by police yesterday following a number of robberies which he committed in Amman. Police sources quoted by Al Ra'i newspaper as saying that the man broke into homes of Egyptian labourers and stole jewellery, money, clothing, radio and passports. The thief admitted stealing goods whose total value estimated at JD 700, and returning one of the stolen passports owner for JD 150. According to the story he carried out his mostly in Wadi Haddade and Jabal Qusour districts during day.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- A spokesman for the Public Security Directorate said today that a total of 24 incidents occurred in Amman yesterday, resulting in the injury of 10 people. Among these, there were four road accidents. According to the spokesman, incidents occurred on Saturday, resulting in one death -- a Palestinian -- and the injury of five people.

BAGHDAD, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Trade, Mr. Sa'di Al Obeidi, opened here today Jordanian trade fair. The three-week fair features Jordanian summer goods and appliances with a total value of JD 1.5 million opening ceremony was attended by the Jordanian Ambassador Baghdad, Mr. Fatch Al Taweel and a number of Jordanian and officials.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- A spokesman for the Public Security Directorate said today that a total of 24 incidents occurred in Amman yesterday, resulting in the injury of 10 people. Among these, there were four road accidents. According to the spokesman, incidents occurred on Saturday, resulting in one death -- a Palestinian -- and the injury of five people.

AMMAN, Feb. 25 (JNA) -- Minister of Industry and Trade Nsour made an inspection tour of Hassa, Aqaba and Ma'an in eastern Jordan today. He visited the phosphate mines and was briefed the work there. In a meeting with the governor of Ma'an, the minister discussed the various needs and services of the city and a glass project.

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Ministers look into Azraq pollution, local concerns

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Feb. 25 — The natural beauty of Azraq was a little hard to appreciate on this cold, wet and windy morning, and there was not a bird in sight on the horizon. But one group of visitors, many of them there for the first time, had a more pressing reason than bird-watching to be there: the ugly problem of pollution of the environment.

In the case of Azraq, this problem has been brought to the notice of Amman's politicians as a result of His Majesty King Hussein's order last year to draw up to 10 million cubic metres of water a year from Azraq to replenish Amman's drinking water supply. Dr. Qasem Rimawi, minister of agriculture, Dr. Jamal Sha'er, minister of municipal, rural and environmental affairs and Dr. Muwaffaq Al Fawwaz, minister of tourism and antiquities headed a team of government officials and individuals with a particular interest in ecology, including Mr. Anis Mouasher, president of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature. The society is responsible for running the Shaumari Wildlife reserve, and acts as a special-interest group which advises the government on ecological problems throughout the country.

The aim of today's trip was threefold, as Dr. Sha'er, Jordan's

first minister of environmental affairs explained to the Jordan Times: first to take into consideration the individual rights of the inhabitants of the two villages, Azraq Shishan and Azraq Druze, whose interests conflict with government plans for the area; second to reach an understanding on how this area should be organised to accommodate citizens, tourists and wildlife alike—and finally to study national demands such as the need for water, roads and so on.

First stop on the inspection tour was the headquarters of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature. Here the team was briefed by Mr. Anis Mouasher on a recently prepared management plan for a conservation area of about 12 square kilometres consisting of Azraq's wetlands and some of the mud flats. The aim is

to foster a quiet unspoiled setting for wildlife, plants, animals and birds, some 250 species of which migrate to the area each year.

A small part of this area is to be set aside for daytrippers — pedestrians only — whose present lack of concern for the environment the party later witnessed at first hand when a trip to Shishan Pool (water from which is pumped to Irbid) revealed oily waste, tin cans and other debris floating in the water. But no matter how much tourists disregard conservation of nature, the most serious threat to the environment comes, unwittingly, from the local Druze and Shishan citizens. The local residents' cesspits (there is no sewerage system here) are contaminating the water table at Azraq.

In view of the current plan to pump water to Amman, the need

to control the pollution has become urgent. Government proposals to move all the villagers to a new town to be built at least five kilometres from the water source were discussed at a meeting held with local dignitaries from both communities (whose tribal customs keep them almost totally segregated from one another).

Land ownership was the key problem in the discussion with various village leaders, whose land — not officially registered — the government considers state-owned. One elder pointed out that the only people who would be able to afford to buy land from the government would be wealthy outsiders from Amman. Why could not a sewerage system be installed instead?

It is apparently cheaper and easier to build a new town, the inhabitants learned. Before the plan could be adopted, however, there would have to be a plebiscite to decide the issue, Dr. Rimawi explained. The other most pressing issue concerned the villagers' demands for water for irrigation purposes, since the digging of artesian wells has been prohibited to avoid further deterioration of the aquifer.

The party also visited the new Ministry of Tourism chalets and swimming pool to be opened to the public in mid-March, and the Shaumari Wildlife reserve, which now boasts a new addition to the Arabian oryx family—a baby born only yesterday.



The waters of Shishan Pool show traces of contamination from car oil and visitors' litter. Photos by Sara O'Neill



Shishan pool Dr. Fawwaz and Mr. Anis Mouasher, president of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature discuss problems to tourists using the area.



A view of Shishan pool at Azraq



The two ostriches recently acquired by the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve as part of the plan to reintroduce species of wildlife which became extinct in Jordan in recent years due to hunting. Other animals at the reserve include Arabian oryx and gazelles.



Dr. Muwaffaq Al Fawwaz, minister of tourism and antiquities, Dr. Qasem Rimawi, minister of agriculture and Dr. Jamal Sha'er, minister of municipal, rural and environmental affairs listen to complaints by representatives of the two villages in Azraq during Monday's visit to the area.

TODAY'S WEATHER

cold and partly cloudy, rain. The wind will be light and variable. In the evening it will be partly cloudy, with northerly moderate breeze.

Overnight	Daytime
low 4	high 10
12 12	19
4 4	15
11 11	17

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

296.00/298.00
671.00/675.00
168.20/169.20
178.20/179.30
71.80/72.20
36.40/36.60
119.90/120.60
152.80/153.70
103.50/104.10
70.60/71.00

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Arab Union Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	1,000	1,710	1,710	1,710
Jordan Dairy Co.	JD 1,000	500	1,350	1,350	1,350
Arabian Seas Insurance Co. Ltd.	JD 5,000	50	11,550	11,550	11,550
Islamic Bank	JD 1,000	650	2,920	2,920	2,920
Bank of Jordan	JD 5,000	100	13,440	13,440	13,440
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	10844	1,710	1,700	1,700
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	1550	2,170	2,170	2,170
Jordan Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	800	2,400	2,350	2,350
Jordan National Bank	JD 5,000	200	15,500	15,200	15,200
Cairo Amman Bank	JD 5,000	700	13,250	13,250	13,250
Al Ahlia Insurance Co.	JD 10,000	55	10,500	10,500	10,500
Dar Al Dawa Development and Investment	JD 1,000	2080	4,400	4,400	4,400
Dar Al Sha'ab	JD 1,000	4600	1,100	1,100	1,100
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	3738	3,480	3,420	3,480
Jordan General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	232	1,460	1,460	1,460
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	2050	1,040	1,040	1,040
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Co.	JD 5,000	479	31,800	31,750	31,750
Arab Company for Aluminium Industries	JD 1,000	3200	1,700	1,700	1,700
Jordan Hotels and Tourism Co.	JD 1,000	150	6,050	6,050	6,050
Jerusalem Insurance Co.	JD 5,000	300	5,500	5,500	5,500
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	2450	2,350	2,350	2,350
Irbid District Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	220	1,080	1,030	1,080
International Construction and Investment	JD 1,000	66390	1,090	1,060	1,060
Arab Finance Corporation	JD 10,000	100	12,000	12,000	12,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills Co.	JD 1,000	500	3,250	3,250	3,250
Jordan Cement Factories Co.	JD10,000	718	22,150	21,950	21,950
Jordan Ceramic Industries Co.	JD 1,000	3600	1,240	1,220	1,240
Jordan Glass Factories Co.	JD 1,000	100	0,930	0,930	0,930
Jordan Paper and Cardboard Factories Co.	JD 1,000	748	1,280	1,250	1,280
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.	JD 1,000	1282	3,450	3,450	3,450
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co.	JD 1,000	1700	2,530	2,460	2,530
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5,000	1419	10,700	10,600	10,650

Total Volume Traded on Monday, Feb. 25, 1980: JD 216,027

Total number of shares traded: 112,405

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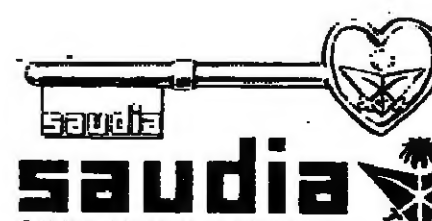


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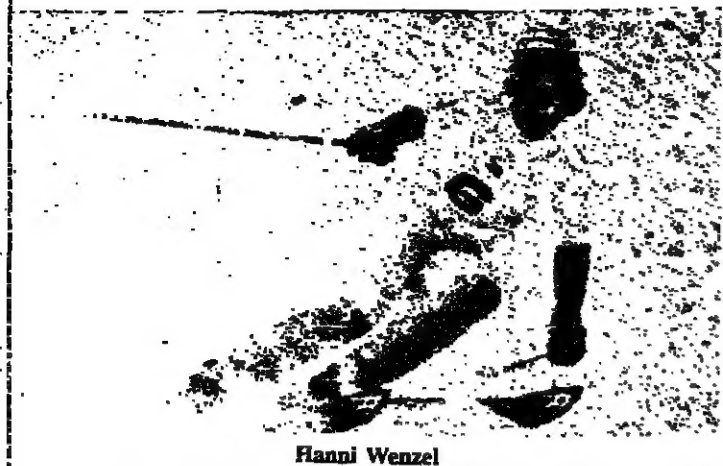
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Eric Heiden



Hanni Wenzel

New stars dominate Winter Olympics

LAKE PLACID, Feb. 25 (R) — He won five gold medals and looked better every time he skated. For most Winter Olympic visitors, Eric Heiden was more imposing than the Adirondack Mountains.

Heiden was an American dream. But the U.S. were also poised to end the games in fairytale fashion with a rare ice hockey gold medal, with everything hanging on a crucial last game against Finland. Winning the hockey title was little more than a fantasy for the young Americans until they defeated the all-powerful Russians on Friday.

But the Heiden saga ran for nine days and every chapter was better than the previous one. He was the supreme competitor, scything through the speed skating programme as though it existed simply to demonstrate his talents. No one else had ever won five golds, but that was not enough for Heiden. He capped it all by slashing six seconds off the world record in the final event, the 10,000 metres.

The Alpine events usually rate as the most glamorous of the games, though when Heiden was performing the skiers had to give up some of the spotlight.

But there was about Ingemar Stenmark and Hanni Wenzel something of the irresistible quality so apparent in Heiden. It was particularly noticeable in Stenmark because of the contrast with the Swede's shaky 1976 Olympic performance in Innsbruck. Four years on, he showed he was quite capable of handling the tension of an Olympic Games, capable enough to sweep coolly and confidently to gold medals in the slalom and giant slalom.

Wenzel set the scene for a similar double by first taking a surprise silver in the downhill—a discipline which still holds no attractions for Stenmark. The Liechtenstein girl squeezed through in the giant slalom less than half a second ahead of West German Irene Epple, but it was a different story in the slalom. This time there was no question about her superiority and Wenzel herself felt she had never skied better.

The downhill was won by Austria, though not without a public row over who would be selected for the men's team. The title eventually went to Leonhard Stock, who came to Lake Placid as a reserve before forcing his way into the squad with fast practice times. But the most popular victory was in the women's downhill in which Anne-Marie Moser finally got the gold she desperately wanted.

The Alpine events were dominated by the established stars, but the Nordic competitions were marked by the eclipse of Norway, Finland and Sweden, who invented the sport.

It was a highly successful campaign for the Soviet Union, who matched the six Nordic golds they took in Innsbruck. The ace in the Russian pack was triple champion Nikolai Zimyatov, who won golds in the 30 and 50 kilometre individual events and the relay.

A luge title was retained for the first time since tobogganing became an Olympic sport when Hans Rinn and Norbert Hahn of East Germany held on to their two-man crown. It was the second luge win here for East Germany, following the success of Bernhard Glass in the men's singles. But the women's gold went to the Soviet Union for the first time after Vera Zozulia had held the initiative in all four runs.

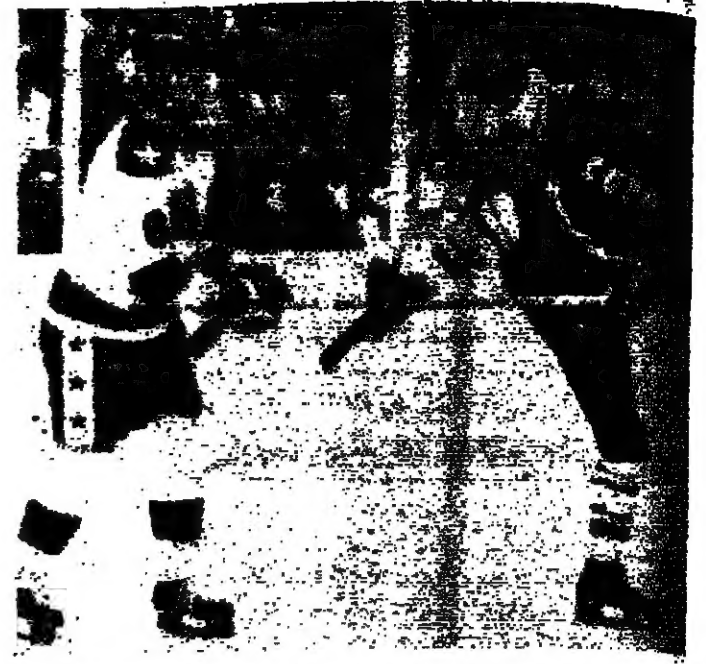
East Germany snatched both bob titles in Innsbruck but they came unstuck here when world champions Erich Schaefer and Josef Benz of Switzerland scored an impressive victory in the two-man event.

East Germany lost a close battle for the men's figure skating title when Jan Hoffmann was overhauled in the final free-skating section by Britain's Robin Cousins. The event was weakened as a spectacle by the withdrawal of world champion Vladimir Kovalev because of influenza.

East Germany made amends in the women's competition when Anett Poetzsch staved off a last-gasp challenge from American Linda Fratianne, at the end of a generally disappointing U.S. figure skating performance here.

Results of medals won by the top countries at Lake Placid were as follows:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
USSR	10	5	6	21
E. Germany	8	7	6	21
USA	5	4	2	11
Austria	3	2	2	7



Russia's Vladimir Petrov is hung up on the hockey stick of American Bill Baker in the semi-final match between the U.S. and USSR Friday night. The U.S. won 4-3, in a startling upset.

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ens to break off relations with London

Nyerere accuses U.K. of rigging upcoming elections in Rhodesia

DAR ES SALAAM, Feb. 25 (R) — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere announced today his country would not recognise the results of this week's Rhodesia independence elections if the Patriotic Front failed to win.

He accused Britain of interfering with the ballot and said: "The results that are going to be announced by Governor (Lord) Soames are going to be rigged results."

Dr. Nyerere, speaking to correspondents in his Dar es Salaam state house, said he would only recognise the result if guerrilla leaders Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo won because it would be a victory "in spite of the trickery, in spite of the perfidiousness and in spite of the huge attempts to prevent them from winning."

Dr. Nyerere further indicated that if the British Government recognised a Rhodesian government resulting from the elections which was not led by the Patriotic Front, Tanzania would break off diplomatic relations with London — as it did after the 1965 Rhodesian unilateral declaration of independence.

He gave a long list of reasons why he believed the poll could not be fair and accused Britain of lying over the continued presence of South Africans in the colony.

As chairman of the five black African "frontline states" supporting the Patriotic Front, he said he was about to send invitations to the other frontline leaders of Mozambique, Angola, Botswana and Zambia to attend a meeting to discuss Rhodesia. The summit, however, would not take place tomorrow as had been announced earlier by the official Tanzanian news agency.

Diplomatic sources said it now seemed likely the frontline presidents would meet immediately after the elections to consider their joint response to the outcome.

Dr. Nyerere warned this morning that, although the frontline states wanted peace, the war would continue "if the British use the opportunity given them by the Commonwealth to return to the situation prevailing before the Lusaka (Commonwealth) conference."

The nature of the war, he added, would change and it would become "internationalised."

Asked whether Tanzania would definitely break relations with Britain, Dr. Nyerere said: "Now it is clear the elections are not going to be free and fair so we are simply waiting for the results. We will determine in accordance with the



Julius Nyerere

results. "My country is small and poor and it has immense economic problems. The British don't need Tanzania. It is conceivable we need Britain but we shall not accept a betrayal of our continent. We shall accept the full consequences of British perfidiousness."

Meanwhile Mr. Nkomo's nationalist guerrillas today took a first step towards integrating with their long time foes in the Rhodesian government forces by reporting for retraining as conventional soldiers.

Some 610 of Mr. Nkomo's ZIPRA (Zimbabwe Peoples Revolutionary Army) forces left their ceasefire assembly points near the Botswana border to drive to the High Acres training camp

south of Bulawayo. For the first time in years, many of them will be giving up their Soviet-type guns when they report here to be retrained on Rhodesian issue G-3 rifles and to be drilled as a conventional battalion.

Major Richard Hutton of the British Royal Artillery is in charge of a 30-man British training squad, supported by 16 New Zealand troops who will patrol the perimeter of the ZIPRA camp.

Integration of the rival forces that fought the seven-year bush war is seen as a crucial step to avoid civil strife in a newly independent Zimbabwe nation following this week's elections.

But there was no indication here that the largest of the guerrilla armies, Mr. Mugabe's ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army), had also agreed to retraining.

The ZIPRA guerrillas drove here today from the "Lima" ceasefire assembly point north of Plumtree on the Botswana border.

Some 22,000 guerrillas, three quarters of them from ZANLA and the rest from ZIPRA, have congregated in the assembly places under the terms of the Dec. 28 ceasefire agreement.

With only two days to go to the start of the Feb. 27-29 vote, it seemed that the process of military integration would barely be under way before independence in Britain's last African colony, expected in mid-March.

'Soviet grain embargo will add to U.S. farmers' financial difficulties'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (R) — A panel of U.S. governors last night expressed concern that American farmers would bear an unfair burden from President Carter's partial grain embargo imposed in retaliation for the Soviet Union's military intervention in Afghanistan.

The governors, at the start of a two-day meeting, said farmers would face financial difficulties in 1980 because of the partial embargo, record interest rates and soaring costs for fuel and other items.

Governor Arthur Link, chairman of their committee on agriculture, said farmers were willing to participate in the suspension, announced on Jan. 4, of sales of 17

million tonnes of wheat and corn to the Soviet Union.

But Mr. Link, a North Dakota Democrat, said farmers should not bear the greatest cost for the action, and that it should be shared with other parts of the population.

Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland defended the halt in grain trade with the Soviets and he said a number of other nations recently placed large orders for U.S. farm products.

Mr. Bergland cited increased agricultural exports to China, South Korea, and other Southeast Asian nations, Mexico, European countries and parts of Africa.

To boost farm sales overseas, trade offices would be opened later this year in China, Venezuela, Tunisia and the Ivory Coast, U.S. Agriculture Department officials told the governors.

Mr. Bergland repeated government estimates that U.S. agricultural exports would set a record this year, despite the partial embargo, and that the grain exporting industry would continue to operate at full capacity.

"If the Russians stop this mad-



Bob Bergland

The post-Tito leaders, already in place during his two-month illness, have quietly reassured anxious Yugoslavs that no big changes are planned, and that they are pledged to preserve continuity in the Tito style.

At the same time, they have let it be known that the collective leadership chosen by the president is structured in such a way as to minimise the risks of a power struggle after his death.

The assurances have come in a series of low-key speeches and interviews by top communist officials and in newspaper articles since the 87-year-old chief of state was admitted to hospital on Jan. 3, suffering from an acute circulatory blockage.

The emphasis on continuity increased when his left leg was amputated on Jan. 20, and then as he lay close to death.

His condition is still grave. He is being kept alive with a kidney support system, but there are no real hopes that he will recover.

Domestically, the new leadership has repeatedly underscored its commitment to the moderate communism or "humane socialism" which the president created.

This has given the 22 million Yugoslavs the highest living standards and the greatest personal freedoms in Eastern Europe.

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Party ideologue Stane Dolnac projected what he called "steady development of ever more democratic and more human forms of

relations between people and ever richer material and cultural conditions of life for the working man."

Some Yugoslavs believe the aged, Moscow-trained Tito may have become a brake on further democratisation in the 1.8-million-member Communist Party, and that progress will be easier when he goes.

Although he advanced the theory that different viewpoints were permissible in debate, he insisted on total unanimity in carrying out final decisions, fearful that political contention, if pushed too far, could lead to factionalism and the break-up of the country's only party.

During his illness, senior officials several times evoked the memory of Edvard Kardelj, the president's long-time close associate, in what Yugoslavs took as a signal that liberal policies and a largely market economy would be continued.

Mr. Kardelj, who died last year, was the architect of Yugoslavia's unique system of workers' councils, an implacable foe of the Soviet Union, and a staunch advocate of greater internal democracy.

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For Yugoslavs, the strong emphasis on Kardeljian ideas seemed to mean a pointed endorsement of democratisation and a strong assertion of continued independence from Moscow.

President Tito and Mr. Kardelj were denounced by the Kremlin as "Fascist hyenas" and "running dogs of imperialism" when they took Yugoslavia out of the Soviet camp in 1948.

Among the Kardelj recollections dusted off by the new leaders was a warning he delivered one-and-a-half years ago against "certain attempts to turn the League (party) of Communists back

Opinion poll puts Carter far ahead of Kennedy on eve of primary election

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire, Feb. 25 (R) — President Carter commands an enormous lead over Senator Edward Kennedy on the eve of New Hampshire's important presidential primary election, according to an opinion poll published yesterday.

The Boston Globe newspaper said 55 per cent of those questioned favoured Mr. Carter and just 30 per cent supported Mr. Kennedy, his main rival for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination.

The paper said that 49 per cent of Democrats questioned expressed an unfavourable opinion about Senator Kennedy's character.

Previous polls had shown that this reaction stemmed from the 1969 Chappaquiddick incident in which a young woman died in Mr. Kennedy's car, the paper said.

Senator Kennedy comes from the neighbouring state of Massachusetts and a defeat tomorrow in his own back yard would be a severe blow, although he has said that he would continue with his campaign even if he lost.

Among the Republican Party presidential contenders, the Boston Globe poll gave Mr. George Bush, a former congressman and onetime director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), a one-point lead over former California governor Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Bush, who leapt to prominence last month when he upset Mr. Reagan in preliminary party voting in the midwestern state of Iowa, had 35 per cent support for the 69-year-old former film actor.

Senator Howard Baker of Tennessee was in third place with 12 per cent and Representative John Anderson of Illinois was fourth with six per cent.

Representative Philip Crane of Illinois, Senator Robert Dole of Kansas and former Texas governor John Connally were even further behind.

The previously decorous Republican contest turned as ugly as the Democratic brawl between President Carter and Senator Kennedy over the weekend when five of the Republicans charged that Mr. Bush was stopping them from joining in campaign debates.

Four of the five had tried to gain entry to a debate between Mr. Bush and Mr. Reagan. Mr. Reagan at the last minute invited them but Mr. Bush refused to help arrange their entry.

The organiser of the debate, a Nashua, New Hampshire newspaper, insisted that it remain a two-man affair but Mr. Reagan, who was paying for the event because of a campaign technicality, insisted on his right to invite other candidates.

The result was that the four, Senators Dole and Baker and Congressmen Crane and Anderson, walked onto the stage with Mr. Reagan, and then stormed off to complain loudly about Mr. Bush's behaviour.

The bitterness translated into the only issue of the Republican race and, since the polls are so close, could become a determining factor.

Senator Baker called the four candidates' exclusion, "the rawest political act I have seen in 15 years in politics." He predicted that Mr. Bush's action would have a profound impact on the primary and on the whole Republican race.

Mr. Bush said the other candidates were joining forces against him because of his strong showing in the polls. His press secretary, Mr. Peter Teeley, said: "These people have been ganging up on us for some weeks, so what's new?"

Thatcher, Schmidt hold unscheduled meeting

LONDON, Feb. 25 (AP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt held an unscheduled meeting at 10 Downing Street today, her office announced.

The two leaders talked for nearly two hours on the Afghanistan crisis and Britain's demands for a sharp readjustment in its contributions to the European Common Market budget.

"Chancellor Schmidt had been in London for a weekend private visit and requested the meeting,"

said a spokesman for Mrs. Thatcher. "He asked if he could see her and of course she was only too glad to agree."

Topics included East-West relations in light of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the spokesman said.

The two leaders meet regularly every six months, and are scheduled to have talks in London on March 27-28.

But today's surprise visit by the German chancellor may indicate a new effort to resolve Britain's dispute with its eight Common Market partners over its £1.2 billion net contribution to the Market budget for 1980.

Unless changes are made, Britain would make about 60 per cent of the total net contributions, although it is third from bottom among Market members in gross national product per head.

Britain has run into the problem, eight years after joining the Common Market, because of two factors: its more open economy means it has to pay higher tariffs on non-Market imported goods, and its relatively efficient farmers get little benefit from the lavish common agricultural policy, which absorbs 70 per cent of the Market budget.

The proposal won strong support from the governments.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Thatcher, beset by economic woes and facing a censure motion in the House of Commons, set out today to rally her party and perhaps the nation.

The Conservative Party issued posters saying, "If you care about Britain, keep it out of the red," and Mrs. Thatcher herself prepared to submit to television questioning on her policies tonight.

A national strike for a 20 per cent pay raise entered its 55th day in the state-run British Steel Corporation (BSC) and the state-owned automaker British Leyland started lay-offs and short-time working for 21,000 members of its 117,000 workforce.

BSC said it is losing nearly £2 million a day.

Public confidence in the government sagged in a wave of price hikes that sent inflation up to 18.4 per cent from 10.3 per cent when the Conservatives came to power.

Last week, a Gallup poll of public opinion found the Tories trailing the opposition Labour Party by 4.5 per cent.

The Labourites put down a motion of no confidence in the government's economic and industrial policies for parliamentary debate on Thursday. But the Tories, with a 42-seat edge in the 635 member House, should be safe.

World News Briefs

LONDON, Feb. 25 (R) — Robert Runcie, 57, who fought as an officer in World War Two, today took office as the 102nd Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, and honorary bishop of the world's 65 million Anglicans. He is the first Archbishop of Canterbury since medieval times to have fought for his country before ordination as a priest. A tank officer with the Scots Guards when the allied forces invaded Nazi-occupied Europe in 1944, won the Military Cross for gallantry during the advance into many. "I pulled someone out of a burning tank and knocked an enemy anti-tank gun that was blocking our advance," he recently. He will publicly inaugurate his reign at a special enthronement ceremony in Canterbury Cathedral on March 24, was bishop of the ancient diocese of St. Albans until taking up his post, and succeeds Archbishop Donald Coggan, who retired month, aged 70.

PEKING, Feb. 25 (R) — Senior Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping stepped down as chief of staff of the Chinese army, it was announced today. General Yang, the former commander of the Kunming Army region bordering on Vietnam, has been appointed in his place. Foreign Ministry spokesman said, Diplomatic sources said change probably did not mean Mr. Deng was in any way losing grip but rather that he felt in full control to delegate responsibilities. The spokesman did not say when Mr. Deng stepped down and declined to give any further details. He remains a chairman of the controlling body of the People's Liberation Army, the Military Affairs Commission of the Communist Party. General Yang, commander of the Chinese forces during last year's border war with Vietnam, was recently appointed a member of the committee chaired by Premier Hua Guofeng. This followed his replacement as commander of the strategic Kunming military region.

PILOS, Greece, Feb. 25 (R) — Greek and Dutch anti-pollutionists today fought an oil slick from the Greek tanker Irotes Sea which sank yesterday, a harbour spokesman said. The 56,000 tanker, fully laden with 100,000 tons of crude oil, caught fire and sank while at anchor refuelling. The first mate and a sailor were killed while the 28 other crew members abandoned ship and were rescued. Before sinking, the tanker spewed thousands of gallons of oil into the sea, and Greek and Dutch experts on four specially vessels sprayed detergent in an attempt to disperse the oil slick. Experts are hopeful that the oil slick will be dispersed very soon and that it will not cause damage...on the western Peloponnese, the spokesman said.

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 25 (R) — Friends and family of Pakistani nationalist Mukhtar Hassan, detained in Afghanistan for the past weeks today staged demonstration outside the Afghan Embassy. They tried to present a petition appealing for his release but embassy refused to accept it, said the spokesman for the group. Mujibur Rahman Shami, editor of the weekly Baadban and a friend of Mr. Hassan, Mr. Mukhtar, bureau chief of the daily Inqilab and associate editor of the weekly Tabeez, was detained with explanation in Kabul on Feb. 10.

TEHRAN, Feb. 25 (R) — Iran's authorities are so pleased with success of their three-day ban on private cars in Tehran that they have decided to extend it. The spokesman of the ruling Revolutionary Council, Mr. Hassan Habibi, said the ban, which was set to end tonight, would be prolonged for another three days. Until now, the only vehicles allowed in the capital's streets between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. are buses, taxis, and official and military cars. Tehran million cars have created one of the world's worst traffic problems making travelling difficult and polluting the air many times permitted levels. President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr, who has to work by minibus for the last three days, told the official Par agency today the ban had been beneficial and he was in favour of continuing it, a judgment shared by 99 per cent of Tehranis, according to the newspaper Bamdad. Mr. Bani-Sadr said cars should be used on holidays and at weekends, not to go to work.

Yugoslavia prepares to follow Tito's lead

By Sidney Weiland

BELGRADE -- With President Tito gravely ill, Yugoslav leaders have moved on several fronts to demonstrate that the country's future policy remains firmly anchored in Titoist doctrines.

The post-Tito leaders, already in place during his two-month illness, have quietly reassured anxious Yugoslavs that no big changes are planned, and that they are pledged to preserve continuity in the Tito style.

At the same time, they have let it be known that the collective leadership chosen by the president is structured in such a way as to minimise the risks of a power struggle after his death.

The assurances have come in a series of low-key speeches and interviews by top communist officials and in newspaper articles since the 87-year-old chief of state was admitted to hospital on Jan. 3, suffering from an acute circulatory blockage.

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relations between people and ever richer material and cultural conditions of life for the working man."

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Although he advanced the theory that different viewpoints were permissible in debate, he insisted on total unanimity in carrying out final decisions, fearful that political contention, if pushed too far, could lead to factionalism and the break-up of the country's only party.

During his illness, senior officials several times evoked the memory of Edvard Kardelj, the president's long-time close associate, in what Yugoslavs took as a signal that liberal policies and a largely market economy would be continued.

Mr. Kardelj, who died last year, was the architect of Yugoslavia's unique system of workers' councils, an implacable foe of the Soviet Union, and a staunch advocate of greater internal democracy.

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President Tito and Mr. Kardelj were denounced by the Kremlin as "Fascist hyenas" and "running dogs of imperialism" when they took Yugoslavia out of the Soviet camp in 1948.

Among the Kardelj recollections dusted off by the new leaders was a warning he delivered one-and-a-half years ago against "certain attempts to turn the League (party) of Communists back

to dogmatist and semi-dogmatic positions."

In Yugoslavia's distinctive Marxist lexicon, dogmatism is a code word for traditionalist communism of the type practised in the Soviet Union. Despite the rhetorical warning by Mr. Kardelj, Yugoslavs say there is nobody in a top position here who favours a return to Soviet-style methods.

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President Tito (right) pictured with Mr. Vladimir Bakarić, who has been propelled increasingly into the spotlight since the president's hospitalization. (Gamma photo)

"candidates who recommend themselves as some sort of 'little Titos.' In the future, he said, 'we shall not search for a new Tito because there is no such person, and for a long time to come there will be no such person.'"

The collective leadership devised and handpicked by President Tito is intended as a safeguard against "little Titos." The 27 men who between them comprise the parallel collective state presidency and the Communist Party presidency are nominally equal and represent varied and carefully weighted regional interests.

When the president dies, the two collective bodies will automatically take over and the present vice-presidents will become

"The climate of careerism and personal struggle for power is what could bring instability, but we have created the conditions for removing such dangers."

Mr. Vladimir Bakarić, his oldest surviving aide and a man nobody suspects of harbouring "little Tito" ambitions, has been propelled increasingly into the spotlight.

The 67-year-old Croatian communist, a member of both state and party presidencies, moved naturally into a new role as chief coordinator when the president fell ill. He is likely to be still more influential in the future.

The prominence given him on television and in the press was also seen as a symbol of reassurance, especially when he recalled

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Uganda murder trial of official under Amin delayed indefinitely

KAMPALA, Uganda, Feb. 25 (AP) — The murder trial of Mr. Kassim Obura, former police commissioner under dictator Idi Amin, has been delayed indefinitely until the expected establishment of special human rights courts in Uganda.

Lawyers at the high court said evidence and witnesses for the trial were ready but that the case would not come up as scheduled. The trial had been set to start today. Mr. Obura is charged with the murder of Samson Dunga, a cinema owner in Kampala, in November 1973.

Mr. Obura would have been the first of Amin's close associates to come to trial following the dictator's ouster nearly a year ago. Some legal sources said it appeared that dozens of Amin's top aides, including British-born Bob Astles, would be shifted from regular courts to human rights courts, with delays involving weeks or months.

A human rights courts bill is under debate in the National Consultative Council, the interim parliament, and appears likely to pass. The bill would enable those charged with "crimes against humanity" during the eight years of Amin's rule to be tried by five-member courts headed by a high court judge or qualified lawyer. The courts would deal with crimes ranging from membership in any of Amin's clandestine organisations to genocide.

The legislation would amend rules of evidence to help overcome difficulties in obtaining witnesses and data against Amin's men.

California, Arizona continue with recovery efforts in wake of floods

NEW YORK, Feb. 25 (AP) — The Army Corps of Engineers is clearing an overflow channel — unused for more than half a century — to carry continuing floodwaters away from Lake Elsinore, California as victims of the worst recent rains return to mud-covered homes.